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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School of Pharmacy changes entrance requirements

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – The Cedarville University School of Pharmacy has modified its admissions requirements for its professional program leading to a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The new standard will allow students to enter into the program without a bachelor's degree.

Faculty members of the school of pharmacy proposed the change to the university's graduate council in December. The changes were approved in January.

The revision now allows students who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical studies — at Cedarville or another accredited university — to gain direct entry. Before this change, students were required to have a bachelor's degree before they could be admitted to the four-year professional program (or complete such during the first year of the professional program).

To be considered for the school of pharmacy, students must complete a minimum of 72 credit hours, including certain science and math courses and 24 general education credit hours.

While applicants may be considered for the school of pharmacy without a bachelor's degree, they will still have to undergo the interview process for admittance into the professional program. Jeffrey Lewis, M.A.C.M., Pharm. D., associate dean of the school of pharmacy and associate professor of pharmacy practice is hoping that this change will open up a greater opportunity for applicants and a more robust class. And, he believes this change will lead more students to pursue Cedarville's Doctor of Pharmacy program.

“We think we are going to have an opportunity to consider a larger pool of student applicants that will increase the strength of each Doctor of Pharmacy class, each of which are limited capacity classes and that will lead to a stronger overall program for university,” Lewis said.

Even with this change, Cedarville will still continue to offer a bachelor’s degree tract for undergraduate students that will allow those students to gain a preferred admissions status into the professional program.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,620 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings.